



Australian Bureau of Statistics

6211.0 - Child Employment, Australia, Jun 2006

Latest ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 15/02/2007 First Issue

Summary

Main Features

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication presents information about children aged 5 to 14 years who worked in the last 12 months. Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Child Employment Survey, conducted throughout Australia in June 2006 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). The survey collected details about whether children worked, when they worked, their reasons for working and their working arrangements.

ROUNDING

As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

Summary of Findings

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

OVERVIEW

In June 2006 there were 175,100 children aged 5 to 14 years who worked at some time during the last 12 months (for example by delivering leaflets for an employer or cleaning or gardening for non-household members for payment). This represented 6.6% of all children aged 5 to 14 years. There were 101,000 boys who had worked (7.4% of all boys) and

74,100 girls (5.7% of all girls). The proportion of children aged 5 to 9 years who had worked was 1.8% and the proportion of children aged 10 to 14 years who had worked was 11%.

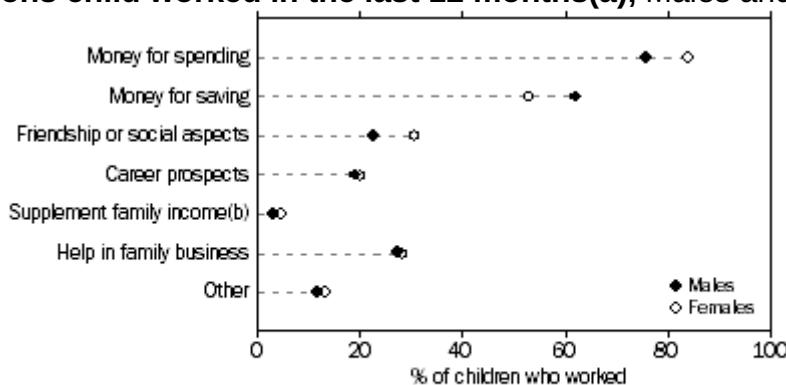
Northern Territory and Western Australia had the highest proportions of children who worked during the last 12 months (12% and 9.5% respectively). New South Wales and Victoria had the lowest proportions of children who worked during the last 12 months (each 5.8%). Across Australia, children in state capital cities were less likely to have worked in the last 12 months (5.3%) than children in the balance of state or in a territory (8.4%).

CHILDREN WHO WORKED

Of the 175,100 children who had worked at some time during the last 12 months, 54% had worked for an employer, 33% had worked in a family business or farm and 16% had worked for themselves (children may have worked in more than one type of job). These proportions were similar for boys and girls, and for children aged 10 to 14 years. However, for children aged 5 to 9 years, 56% had worked in a family business or farm and 31% had worked for an employer.

The most common reason that children worked was 'Money for spending'. For 79% of children who had worked in the last 12 months this was one of the reasons they worked, and for 51% of children it was the main reason they worked. This was followed by 'Money for saving' which for 58% of children was one of the reasons and for 24% it was the main reason they worked.

All reasons child worked in the last 12 months(a), Males and females



(a) Refers to all reasons, therefore children may appear in more than one category.

(b) Estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

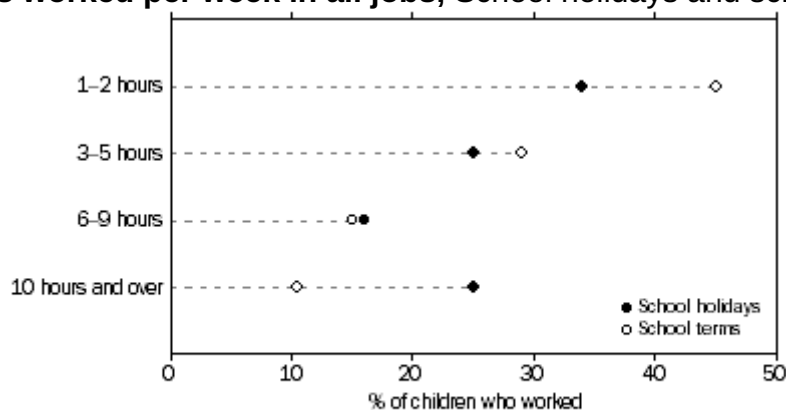
Over a quarter (28%) of children who worked during the last 12 months worked between 1 and 3 weeks of the year and 30% worked between 4 and 12 weeks of the year. The remaining 42% worked 13 weeks or more during the year.

WORK AND SCHOOL BALANCE

Of all children aged 5 to 14 years who worked in the last 12 months, 146,000 (83%) worked during school terms, 121,400 (69%) worked during school holidays and 92,300 (53%) worked during both school holidays and school terms.

Of the children aged 5 to 14 years who worked during school terms, 45% usually worked 1 to 2 hours, 29% usually worked 3 to 5 hours and 11% usually worked 10 hours and over per week in all jobs during school terms. Of the children aged 5 to 14 years who worked during school holidays, 34% usually worked 1 to 2 hours, 25% usually worked 3 to 5 hours and 25% usually worked 10 hours and over per week in all jobs during school holidays.

Usual hours worked per week in all jobs, School holidays and school terms(a)



(a) Some children worked during school holidays and school terms and appear in both populations.

Of children who worked during school terms, 67% usually worked Saturday to Sunday and 58% usually worked Monday to Friday during school terms. The most common times of the day usually worked were between 3pm and 5pm on Mondays to Fridays and between 9am and 12pm on Saturdays and Sundays (40% and 34% of children who worked during school terms respectively).

Of children who worked during school holidays, 63% usually worked Saturday to Sunday and 73% usually worked Monday to Friday during school holidays. The most common times of the day usually worked during school holidays were between 9am and 12pm and between 3pm and 5pm (50% and 48% of children who worked during school holidays respectively).

OCCUPATION OF MAIN JOB

The most common occupation for boys in their main job during school terms was 'Leaflet or Newspaper Deliverer' (24%), while 'Farm, Forestry and Garden Workers' was the most common occupation for boys in their main job during school holidays (26%). For girls, the most common occupation in their main job during both school holidays and school terms was 'Sales Workers' (17% and 20% respectively).

TRAVEL TO WORK

The most common way for children to travel to and from work was by 'Private motor vehicle with parents' (45% of boys and 57% of girls), followed by walking (25% of boys and 21% of girls). About one in five children (18% of boys and 21% of girls) worked from home or did not need to travel to and from work.

About this Release

The Child Employment Survey was developed due to renewed interest in the level and nature of child employment and in children's general wellbeing, e.g. the passing of the Child Employment Bill in Victoria, and legislative changes that were underway or proposed in Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia.

The main aim of the survey was to find out how many children are working with a focus on occupation and school/work balance. Questions were asked of the parent or guardian to collect information on work done in the last 12 months for all children in the household aged 5 to 14 years.

There are four populations for this survey:

Population 1: All children aged 5 to 14 years.

Population 2: Children aged 5 to 14 years who worked at some time in the last 12 months.

Population 3: Children aged 5 to 14 years who worked during school terms at some time in the last 12 months.

Population 4: Children aged 5 to 14 years who worked during school holidays at some time in the last 12 months.

New survey on child employment: ABS (Media Release)

MEDIA RELEASE

February 15, 2007

Embargoed 11.30am (AEDT)

20/2007

New survey on child employment: ABS

Some 7% of children (aged 5 to 14 years) had worked during the 12 months to June 2006, according to a new Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) survey on child employment released today. Typical jobs included delivering leaflets for an employer or cleaning or gardening for other households.

More than half (54%) of the 175,100 children had worked for an employer, 33% had worked in a family business or farm and 16% had worked for themselves (children may have worked in more than one type of job).

A higher proportion of 10 to 14 year old children worked (11%) than 5 to 9 year old children (just under 2%).

The most common occupation for the 101,000 employed boys in their main job was 'Leaflet or Newspaper Deliverer' during school terms (24%) and 'Farm, Forestry and Garden Workers' during school holidays (26%). While the most common occupation for the 74,100 employed girls in their main job was 'Sales Workers' during both school holidays (17%) and school terms (20%).

The most common main reason that children worked was 'Money for spending' (51%), followed by 'Money for saving' (24%).

Most children worked during both school holidays and school terms (53%), while 17% worked in school holidays only and 31% worked in school terms only.

For the 146,000 children who worked during school terms, the most common times of day usually worked were between 3pm and 5pm on Mondays to Fridays (40%) and between 9am and noon on Saturdays and Sundays (34%). For the 121,400 children who worked during school holidays, the most common times of the day worked were between 9am and noon (50%) and between 3pm and 5pm (48%).

Of children who worked during school terms, 45% usually worked 1 to 2 hours per week in all jobs, 29% worked 3 to 5 hours, 15% worked 6 to 9 hours and 11% worked 10 hours or more. During school holidays, 34% usually worked 1 to 2 hours per week, 25% worked 3 to 5 hours, 16% worked 6 to 9 hours and 25% worked 10 hours or more.

This survey was conducted in response to increased interest in the level and nature of child employment.

Further details can be found in *Child Employment, Australia, June 2006* (cat. no. 6211.0).

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Child Employment Survey, conducted throughout Australia in June 2006 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). This is the first time the Child Employment Survey has been conducted.

2 The publication Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks, which also apply to supplementary surveys. LFS also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing which are relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

3 Information for this survey was collected using computer assisted interviewing (CAI), whereby responses are recorded directly into an electronic questionnaire via a notebook computer.

CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

4 The conceptual framework used in Australia's LFS aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics,

and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001) which is available on the ABS web site <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> (Methods, Classifications, Concepts & Standards).

SCOPE

5 The scope of the LFS was restricted to persons aged 15 years and over and excluded the following people:

- members of the permanent defence forces
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts
- overseas residents in Australia
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).

6 Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for persons with disabilities) and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.

7 The scope of this supplementary survey was restricted to children aged 5 to 14 years. Information about the working patterns of each child was collected from a parent or guardian if they were resident in the same household and fully responding to the LFS. If a parent or guardian of the child was unavailable, out on scope or not fully responding to the LFS then the information was collected from another person aged 15 years or over resident in the same household who was fully responding to the LFS.

8 This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded approximately 30,000 children aged 5 to 14 years living in very remote parts of Australia who would otherwise have been within the scope of the survey. The exclusion of these children will have only a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced for individual states and territories, except the Northern Territory where such children account for around 30% of all children aged 5 to 14 years.

COVERAGE

9 The estimates in this publication relate to people covered by the survey in June 2006. In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) for more details.

SAMPLE SIZE

10 The initial sample for the June 2006 LFS consisted of 41,518 private dwelling households and special dwelling units. Of the 33,806 private dwelling households and special dwelling units that remained in the survey after sample loss (e.g. households selected in the survey which had no residents in scope for the LFS, vacant or derelict dwellings and dwellings

under construction), approximately 31,906 or 94% were fully responding to the Child Employment Survey. The number of completed interviews obtained from these private dwelling households and special dwelling units (after taking into account scope, coverage and subsampling exclusions) was 9,564.

ESTIMATION METHODS

11 Weighting is the process of adjusting results from a sample survey to infer results for the total in scope population. To do this, a 'weight' is allocated to each sample unit. The weight is a value which indicates how many population units are represented by the sample unit. The first step in calculating weights for each unit is to assign an initial weight, which is the inverse of the probability of being selected in the survey. The initial weights are then calibrated to align with independent estimates of the population of interest, referred to as 'benchmarks'. Weights are calibrated against population benchmarks to ensure that the survey estimates conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population rather than the distribution within the sample itself.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

12 Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:

- sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For more information see the Technical Note.
- non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and effective processing procedures.

SEASONAL FACTORS

13 The estimates are based on information collected in the survey month, with reference to the 12 months prior to interview. Enumeration may have been during school holidays or school terms, depending on the state or territory and the date of interview, which may affect recall for some questions. If enumeration had taken place in a different month estimates may have differed to those produced in this publication.

CLASSIFICATIONS USED

14 Occupation data are classified according to the ANZSCO - Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, 2006 (cat. no. 1220.0).

15 Country of birth data are classified according to the Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), 1998 (cat. no. 1269.0).

NOTES ON ESTIMATES

Definition of employment for children

16 The definition of employment for this survey has been adapted from the LFS. Children aged 5 to 14 years were considered to be employed if they worked for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job, business, or on a farm, or worked without pay in a family business or farm at some time in the last 12 months. Throughout this publication employment is referred to as 'worked in the last 12 months'.

17 Work in the last 12 months may include:

- paid work for an employer
- unpaid work in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers)
- paid work in a family business or on a farm
- work carried out for non-household members (e.g. neighbourhood car washing, lawn mowing) for payment
- street vending
- busking
- work done for payment in kind (e.g. if the child receives goods rather than cash as payment for work done)
- paid work for non-profit organisations.

18 Work in the last 12 months excludes:

- all household work undertaken for their household
- unpaid work experience (e.g. done as part of the child's schooling)
- unpaid probationary periods
- unpaid work done for all charities and non-profit organisations.

19 All work undertaken by home-schooled children has been included under school holidays.

Characteristics of parents

20 In this publication information on the Country of birth and Labour force status of the parent(s) or guardian(s) of each child is presented in Table 2. See the Glossary for definitions of 'parent or guardian'. If the parent(s) or guardian(s) were out of scope for the LFS, or did not complete the LFS then Country of birth and Labour force status information was not collected. These children are not separately identified in Table 2.

Classification of occupation for children

21 Occupation was coded according to the ANZSCO - Australian and New Zealand Classification of Occupations, First Edition, 2006 (cat. no. 1220.0) at the most detailed level (6 digit). The table below presents the concordance between the ANZSCO codes and the classification presented in Table 4. This alternative classification has been used to present more useful categories for the population of children because the occupations in which children tend to work differ from those in which adults tend to work.

Classification in Table 4	ANZSCO code
Technicians and Trades Workers	3
Community and Personal Service Workers	4
Carers and Aides	42
Other Community and Personal Service Workers	4 (remainder)
Clerical and Administrative Workers	5
Sales Workers	6
Labourers	8
Cleaners and Laundry Workers	81
Farm, Forestry and Garden Workers	84
Food Preparation Assistants	85
Leaflet or Newspaper Deliverer	899915
Other Labourers	8 (remainder)
Other(a)	1, 2 and 7

(a) Includes occupations in ANZSCO categories 1, 2 and 7, namely 'Managers', 'Professionals' and 'Machinery Operators and Drivers', such as 'Actors, Dancers and Other Entertainers', 'Music Professionals' and 'Private Tutors and Teachers'.

COMPARABILITY WITH MONTHLY LFS STATISTICS

22 Due to differences in the scope of the surveys, comparisons can not be made between the LFS and the Child Employment Survey in regards to employment levels (i.e. the LFS obtains information on persons aged 15 years and over, while the Child Employment Survey collects information on persons aged 5 to 14 years).

COMPARABILITY WITH OTHER SURVEYS ON CHILD EMPLOYMENT

23 Caution should be exercised when comparing child employment estimates collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and other collection sources. Definitions, scope of the survey, collection methodologies and survey constructions may be different, and hence not strictly comparable.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

24 ABS surveys draw extensively on information provided by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the **Census and Statistics Act 1905**.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

25 Other publications which may be of interest include:

- Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0)
- Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)
- Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2006 (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001)
- Information Paper: Improving Statistics on Children and Youth - An Information

- Development Plan, 2006 (cat. no. 4907.0)
- Schools, Australia (cat. no. 4221.0)

26 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the **Catalogue of Publications and Products** (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Children who work for themselves

A child who operates his or her own unincorporated economic enterprise or engages independently in a profession or trade. Informal work for relatives or neighbours for payment where the child has solicited the employment is included.

Employer

A person who operates his or her own unincorporated economic enterprise or engages independently in a profession or trade, and hires one or more employees; or a business with one or more employees. For the Child Employment Survey it includes formal work for a registered non-family business and informal work for relatives or neighbours for payment, where the employer has solicited the child's employment.

Family business or farm

An economic enterprise (e.g. company, partnership or individual) operated solely by a relative of the child.

Main job during school holidays

The job in which the child worked the most hours during school holidays.

Main job during school terms

The job in which the child worked the most hours during school terms.

Mode of travel to and from work

Refers to the mode(s) of transport usually used to get to and from the place(s) of work. It

excludes travel undertaken during the course of work.

Number of weeks worked

The number of weeks within the reference period where the child did any work. For example, if a child worked one hour a week for five weeks, this would constitute five weeks worked. If a child worked 20 hours a week for five weeks, this would also constitute five weeks worked.

Occupation of main job

Coded according to the **Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 2006 edition** (cat. no. 1221.0). For more information see paragraph 21 of the **Explanatory Notes**.

Parent or guardian

A parent is a natural, step, adoptive or foster mother or father of a child and resident in the same household as the child. A guardian is a person aged 15 years and over who is reported as being the guardian or main carer of a child, regardless of the existence of any legal arrangement, and resident in the same household as the child. Throughout this publication the term 'parent' also refers to guardians.

Reference period

The 12 months prior to interview in June 2006.

School holidays

The periods of time between school terms. It includes all school holidays in the reference period. It excludes holidays taken during school terms, public holidays that fall during school terms and pupil free days. Note that school holidays differ between states and territories. All work undertaken by home-schooled children has been included under school holidays.

School terms

The official periods of time during which school was attended in the reference period. It includes weekends that fall between two weeks of school, pupil free days and public holidays that would otherwise constitute a school day. Note that school terms differ between states and territories.

Time(s) of the day worked

Refers to the time(s) of the day usually worked, that is the most common pattern of work undertaken. Time used for preparation is included. Children were counted in each of the time period categories they worked in, even if they did not work for the whole of that period. Children may appear in more than one category as they may have worked across more than one of the time periods presented.

Usual hours worked per week

Includes hours of preparation and regular shifts that the child works. It excludes irregular or extra shifts worked by the child and time taken to travel to and from work.

Worked in the last 12 months

Work occurred during the 12 month reference period if the child undertook activities for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job, business or on a farm, or worked without pay in a family business or farm. Some examples of children's work include carrying out work for non-household members for payment, busking or delivering leaflets. Note that chores undertaken for the child's household are excluded. See paragraphs 16 to 19 of the **Explanatory Notes** for further explanation of work.

Work-related injury or illness

Injuries or illnesses that were a direct result of the child working. Excludes injuries which were diagnosed more than 12 months ago and accidents that did not result in an injury (e.g. a minor scratch).

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

The following symbols and abbreviations are used in this publication:

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
CAI	computer assisted interviewing
LFS	Labour Force Survey (Australia)
RSE	relative standard error
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SE	standard error

Populations and data items list (Appendix 1)

APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Child Employment Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items are available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the people in the survey to whom the data relates.

For more information about the ABS data available on request, contact Sarah Dexter on Canberra (02) 6252 7246, or by facsimile on (02) 6252 7512, or by email to <sarah.dexter@abs.gov.au>.

Population 1

All children aged 5 to 14 years.

Population 2

Children aged 5 to 14 years who worked at some time in the last 12 months.

Population 3

Children aged 5 to 14 years who worked during school terms at some time in the last 12 months.

Population 4

Children aged 5 to 14 years who worked during school holidays at some time in the last 12 months.

Note: Some children worked during both school holidays and school terms and appear in both populations 3 and 4.

Data items		Populations
1	State or territory of usual residence	All
	New South Wales	
	Victoria	
	Queensland	
	South Australia	
	Western Australia	
	Tasmania	
	Northern Territory	
	Australian Capital Territory	
2	Area of usual residence	All
	State capital city	
	Balance of state/territory	
3	Sex	All
	Males	

	Females	
4	Country of birth of child	All
	Born in Australia	
	Born overseas	
	Oceania & Antarctica	
	North-West Europe	
	Southern & Eastern Europe	
	Middle East and North Africa	
	South-East Asia	
	North-East Asia	
	Southern & Central Asia	
	Americas	
	Sub-Saharan Africa	
	Not stated	
5	Year of arrival in Australia	All
	Arrived before 2001	
	Arrived 2001	
	Arrived 2002	
	Arrived 2003	
	Arrived 2004	
	Arrived 2005	
	Arrived 2006	
	Born in Australia	
	Not stated	
	Note: Collected in single years	
6	Country of birth of parents	All
	Child in couple family	
	Both parents born in Australia	
	One parent born in Australia and one parent born overseas	
	Both parents born overseas	
	One or both parents with Country of birth not stated	
	Child in one parent family	
	Parent born in Australia	
	Parent born overseas	
	Country of birth of parent not stated	
7	Year of arrival in Australia of parent(s)	All
	Arrived before 2001	
	Arrived 2001	
	Arrived 2002	
	Arrived 2003	
	Arrived 2004	
	Arrived 2005	
	Arrived 2006	
	Born in Australia	
	Not stated	
	Note: Collected in single years for each parent	
8	Labour force status of parent(s)	All
	Child in couple family	
	Both parents employed	
	One parent employed and one parent unemployed or not in the labour force	
	Both parents unemployed or not in the labour force	
	One or both parents with Labour force status not stated	
	Child in one parent family	
	Parent employed	
	Parent unemployed or not in the labour force	
	Labour force status of parent not stated	
9	Age group (years)	All
	5-9	
	10-14	
	Note: Collected in single years	
10	Whether worked in the last 12 months	1
	Worked in the last 12 months	
	Did not work in the last 12 months	
11	Working status in all jobs	2
	Worked for an employer	
	Worked for self	

	Worked in family business or farm	
	Note: Multiple response item. Children may appear in more than one category.	
12	Working pattern in all jobs	2
	School holidays	
	School terms - weekends	
	School terms - weekdays	
	Before school/after school	
	During school hours (9am-3pm)	
	Note: Multiple response item. Children may appear in more than one category.	
13	Usual hours worked per week in main job during school terms	3
	1-2 hours	
	3-5 hours	
	6-9 hours	
	10 hours and over	
	Note: Collected in single hours	
14	Usual hours worked per week in main job during school holidays	4
	1-2 hours	
	3-5 hours	
	6-9 hours	
	10 hours and over	
	Note: Collected in single hours	
15	Usual hours worked per week in all jobs during school terms	3
	1-2 hours	
	3-5 hours	
	6-9 hours	
	10 hours and over	
	Note: Collected in single hours	
16	Usual hours worked per week in all jobs during school holidays	4
	1-2 hours	
	3-5 hours	
	6-9 hours	
	10 hours and over	
	Note: Collected in single hours	
17	Usual days worked per week in all jobs during school terms	3
	Monday	
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	
	Friday	
	Saturday	
	Sunday	
	Note: Multiple response item. Children may appear in more than one category.	
18	Whether worked Mon-Fri, Sat-Sun or both during school terms	3
	Worked Mon-Fri only	
	Worked Sat-Sun only	
	Worked Mon-Fri and Sat-Sun	
19	Usual days worked per week in all jobs during school holidays	4
	Monday	
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	
	Friday	
	Saturday	
	Sunday	
	Note: Multiple response item. Children may appear in more than one category.	
20	Whether worked Mon-Fri, Sat-Sun or both during school holidays	4
	Worked Mon-Fri only	
	Worked Sat-Sun only	
	Worked Mon-Fri and Sat-Sun	
21	Usual number of days worked per week in all jobs during school terms	3
	1 day	
	2 days	
	3 days	
	4 days	
	5 days	
	6 days	

	7 days	
22	Usual number of days worked per week in all jobs during school holidays	4
	1 day	
	2 days	
	3 days	
	4 days	
	5 days	
	6 days	
	7 days	
23	Whether usually worked day-time, night-time or both in all jobs	2
	Usually worked between 6am and 7pm only	
	Usually worked between 7pm and 6am only	
	Usually worked between 6am and 7pm and between 7pm and 6am	
24	Occupation of main job during school terms	3
	Technicians and Trades Workers	
	Community and Personal Service Workers	
	Carers and Aides	
	Other Community and Personal Service Workers	
	Clerical and Administrative Workers	
	Sales Workers	
	Labourers	
	Cleaners and Laundry Workers	
	Farm, Forestry and Garden Workers	
	Food Preparation Assistants	
	Leaflet or Newspaper Deliverer	
	Other Labourers	
	Other	
25	Occupation of main job during school holidays	4
	Technicians and Trades Workers	
	Community and Personal Service Workers	
	Carers and Aides	
	Other Community and Personal Service Workers	
	Clerical and Administrative Workers	
	Sales Workers	
	Labourers	
	Cleaners and Laundry Workers	
	Farm, Forestry and Garden Workers	
	Food Preparation Assistants	
	Leaflet or Newspaper Deliverer	
	Other Labourers	
	Other	
26	Number of weeks worked during the last 12 months in all jobs	2
	1 week	
	2-3 weeks	
	4-12 weeks	
	13-25 weeks	
	26-51 weeks	
	52 weeks	
	Note: Collected in single weeks	
27	Mode of travel to and from work	2
	Public transport	
	Private motor vehicle with parents	
	Motor vehicle with friends or employer	
	Walk	
	Bicycle	
	Worked from home or no travel involved	
	Other	
	Note: Multiple response item. Children may appear in more than one category.	
28	Whether the child had suffered a work-related injury or illness in the last 12 months	2
	Did suffer an injury or illness	
	Did not suffer an injury or illness	
29	All reasons child worked	2
	Money for spending	
	Money for saving	
	Friendship or social aspects	
	Career prospects	

Supplement family income
 Help in family business
 Other

Note: Multiple response item. Children may appear in more than one category.

30 Main reason child worked

Money for spending
 Money for saving
 Friendship or social aspects
 Career prospects
 Supplement family income
 Help in family business
 Other

2

Supplementary surveys (Appendix 2)

APPENDIX 2 SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The Monthly Population Survey program collects data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of supplementary surveys to the monthly labour force survey. Data from these surveys are available on request and can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

	cat. no.	Frequency	Latest issue
Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia	6239.0	Biennial	2004-2005
Career Experience, Australia	6254.0	Discontinued	November 2002
Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications, Australia	6243.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1993
Child Care, Australia	4402.0	Irregular	June 2005
Child Employment, Australia	6211.0	Irregular	June 2006
Education and Work, Australia	6227.0	Annual	May 2006
Employee Earnings, Benefits, and Trade Union Membership, Australia	6310.0	Annual	August 2005
Forms of Employment, Australia	6359.0	Irregular	November 2004
Job Search Experience, Australia	6222.0	Annual	July 2006
Labour Force Experience, Australia	6206.0	Biennial	February 2005
Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment, Australia	6235.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, Australia(a)	6224.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia	6250.0	Irregular	November 2004
Labour Mobility, Australia	6209.0	Biennial	February 2006
Locations of Work, Australia	6275.0	Irregular	November 2005
Multiple Jobholding, Australia(b)	6216.0	Irregular	August 1997
Participation in Education, Australia	6272.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1999
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	6220.0	Annual	September 2005

Persons Who had Re-entered the Labour Force, Australia	6264.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1995
Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force, Australia	6267.0.40.001	Discontinued	Final issue 1994
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia	6238.0	Biennial	2004-2005
Retrenchment and Redundancy, Australia	6266.0	Discontinued	July 2001
Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia	6245.0	Discontinued	Final issue 2000
Superannuation, Australia	6319.0	Discontinued	Final issue 1995
Underemployed Workers, Australia	6265.0	Annual	September 2005
Working Arrangements, Australia	6342.0	Irregular	November 2003
Work-Related Injuries, Australia	6324.0	Irregular	2005-2006

(a) Latest data available June 2006, from the ABS web site cat. no. 6224.0.55.001 annual, or on request.

(b) Latest data available on request July 2001.

Technical Note - Data Quality

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

INTRODUCTION

1 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

2 Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate. The SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using the data collected in this survey. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size. Table T1 shows the SEs and RSEs that should be used for estimates of persons aged 5 to 14 years who worked in the last 12 months.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERRORS

3 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of people is as follows. Table 1 shows that the estimated number of children in Australia aged 5 to 14 years who worked in the last 12 months was 175,100. Since this estimate is between 150,000 and 200,000, table T1 shows the SE will be between 7,800 and 9,000, and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

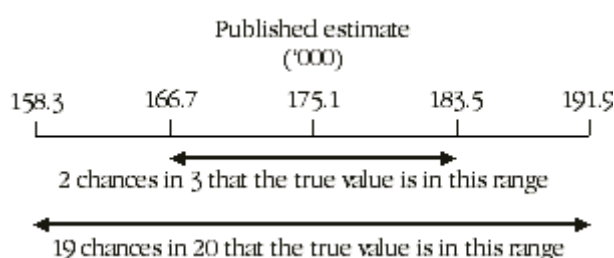
SE of estimate

$$= \text{lower SE} + \left(\left(\frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \right)$$

$$= 7,800 + \left(\left(\frac{175,100 - 150,000}{200,000 - 150,000} \right) \times (9,000 - 7,800) \right)$$

$$= 8,400 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)}$$

4 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall in the range 166,700 to 183,500, and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 158,300 to 191,900. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.



5 In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g.*3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g.**0.3), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of 25% or less.

6 The RSEs for estimates of children who did not work and total children aged 5 to 14 years are obtained by first finding the RSE of the population estimate from table T1 then multiplying the resulting number by a factor of 0.32.

7 The following is an example of the calculation of SEs where the use of a factor is required. Table 1 shows that the estimated number of boys aged 5 to 9 years that did not work was 655,100. The SE of 655,100 children that did work can be calculated from table T1 (by interpolation) as 15,500 (rounded to nearest 100). To convert this to an SE relating to boys aged 5 to 9 years that did not work, multiply this number by the factor 0.32: $15,500 \times 0.32 = 5,000$ (rounded to nearest 100). The RSE of this estimate of boys aged 5 to 9 years that did not work is therefore $5,000/655,100 = 0.8\%$.

8 In Table 1 estimates of the total number of children aged 5 to 14 years are shown by Sex, Country of birth of child, State or territory and Area of usual residence. With the exception of Country of birth of child, these total estimates have zero sampling error as they are the items used as benchmarks.

PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES

9 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y.

RSE(X/y) = sqrt([RSE(x)]^2 - [RSE(y)]^2)

10 Considering the example above, of the 175,100 children aged 5 to 14 years who worked in the last 12 months, 101,000 or 57.7% were boys. The SE of 101,000 may be calculated by interpolation as 6,400. To convert this to an RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or 6,400/101,000 = 6.3%. The SE for 175,100 was calculated previously as 8,400, which converted to an RSE is 8,400/175,100 = 4.8%. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is:

RSE = sqrt((6.3)^2 - (4.8)^2) = 4.1%

11 Therefore, the SE for the proportion of boys aged 5 to 14 years who worked in the last 12 months is 2.4 percentage points (=57.7/100)x4.1). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of boys aged 5 to 14 years who worked in the last 12 months is between 55.3% and 60.1% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 52.9% to 62.5%.

DIFFERENCES

12 Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

SE(x-y) = sqrt([SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2)

13 While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

STANDARD ERRORS

T1 Standard errors of estimates(a)

Size of estimate (children)	SE no.	RSE %
100	130	130

200	200	100
300	260	87
500	350	70
700	420	60
1,000	520	52
1,500	660	44
2,000	780	39
2,500	900	36
3,000	1 000	33
3,500	1 100	31
4,000	1 150	29
5,000	1 300	26
7,000	1 600	23
10,000	1 900	19
15,000	2 400	16
20,000	2 800	14
30,000	3 450	12
40,000	4 000	10
50,000	4 500	9
100,000	6 400	6
150,000	7 800	5
200,000	9 000	5
300,000	10 900	4
500,000	13 900	3
1,000,000	19 200	2
2,000,000	26 200	1

(a) Refers to children aged 5 to 14 years who worked in the last 12 months. To calculate RSEs for other estimates in this publication, refer to paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Technical Note.

T2 Levels at which estimates have relative standard errors of 25% and 50%(a)

	Size of estimate
25% RSE	
Children aged 5 to 14 years who worked in the last 12 months	5 600
50% RSE	
Children aged 5 to 14 years who worked in the last 12 months	1 100

(a) Refers to the number of children contributing to the estimate.